25X1

[redacted]

NPIC/R-1611/64

November 1964

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

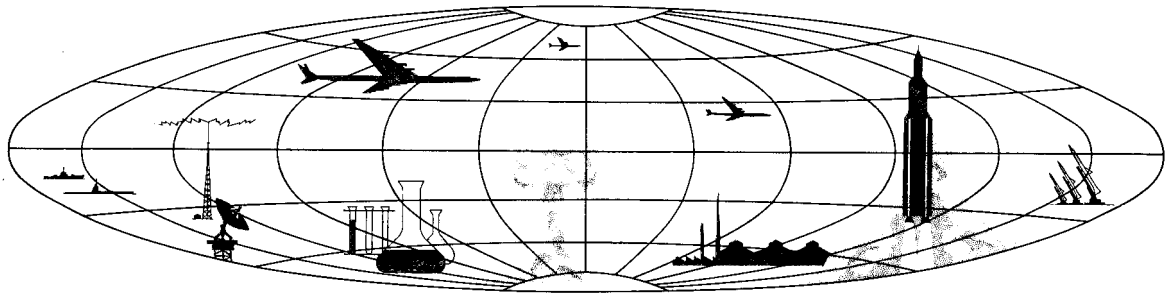
EXPLOSIVES PLANT NORTH

TAI-YUAN, CHINA

CIA

DIA

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



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NPIC/R-1611/64

EXPLOSIVES PLANT NORTH, TAI-YUAN, CHINA

INTRODUCTION

25X1A An explosives processing and light fabrication installation [ ] Tai-yuan Explosives Plant North), located at 38-00N 112-31E, is the northernmost component of the Explosives and Ammunition Complex on the northern periphery of Tai-yuan, China (Figure 1). The plant is connected by rail to a secured explosives storage area 2 nautical miles (nm) to the east and to an explosives manufacturing plant one nm south. The explosives storage area is part of the explosives plant.

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Photography of [ ] showed this plant to be in the late stages of construction; [ ] photography (Figure 2) showed the plant at least partially operational. Eleven boxcars were visible within the plant area on the [ ] photography.

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DESCRIPTION

For purposes of description, the plant has been divided into three areas: a production and storage area, an administration and housing area, and a secured explosives storage area.

Production and Storage Area

The production and storage area has been divided, according to probable function, into four sections lettered A through D (Figures 2 and 3). Numbered buildings in the following description are keyed to Figure 3.

Section A. This appears to be a light processing and fabrication section dealing with explosives components; it is a possible shell-loading facility. Within the section are two rows of three buildings each (buildings 6-8, 14-16). Each row of buildings could be a single production line; however, building size and configuration indicate that each building houses at least one production line. [ ]

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[ ]

Buildings 7, 8, and 16 have several protected, baffled entrances (inset, Figure 3). Buildings 6 and 14 have unusual, roofless, rectangular structures extending from their walls. The structures measure [ ] feet and have walls [ ] most of the structures are paired, with their long sides parallel to the buildings and with a common wall between each pair. Building 6 has 10 paired structures and 2 unpaired, or single, structures (inset, Figure 3); building 14 has 6 paired structures and one single structure.

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Each of the main processing buildings is associated with a rail-served storage building. Buildings 6, 14, 15, and 16 are served by possible transformer buildings. Building 14 is connected to a storage building by a conveyer which has a raised portion; the raised part of the conveyer possibly houses machinery used for screening and sorting bulk materials. [ ]

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[ ]

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Section B. This section appears to be a high-explosives processing facility. Section B

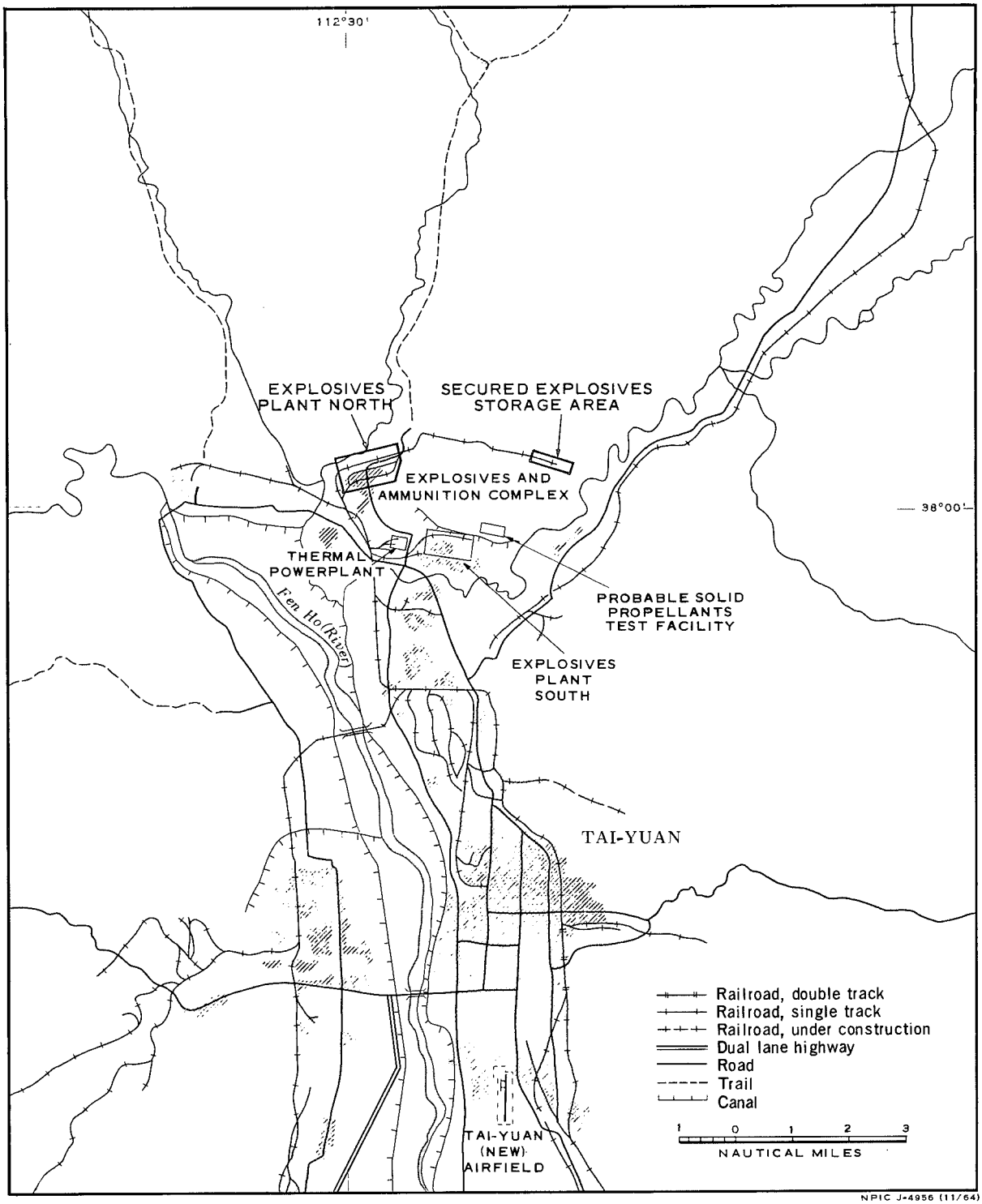

FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

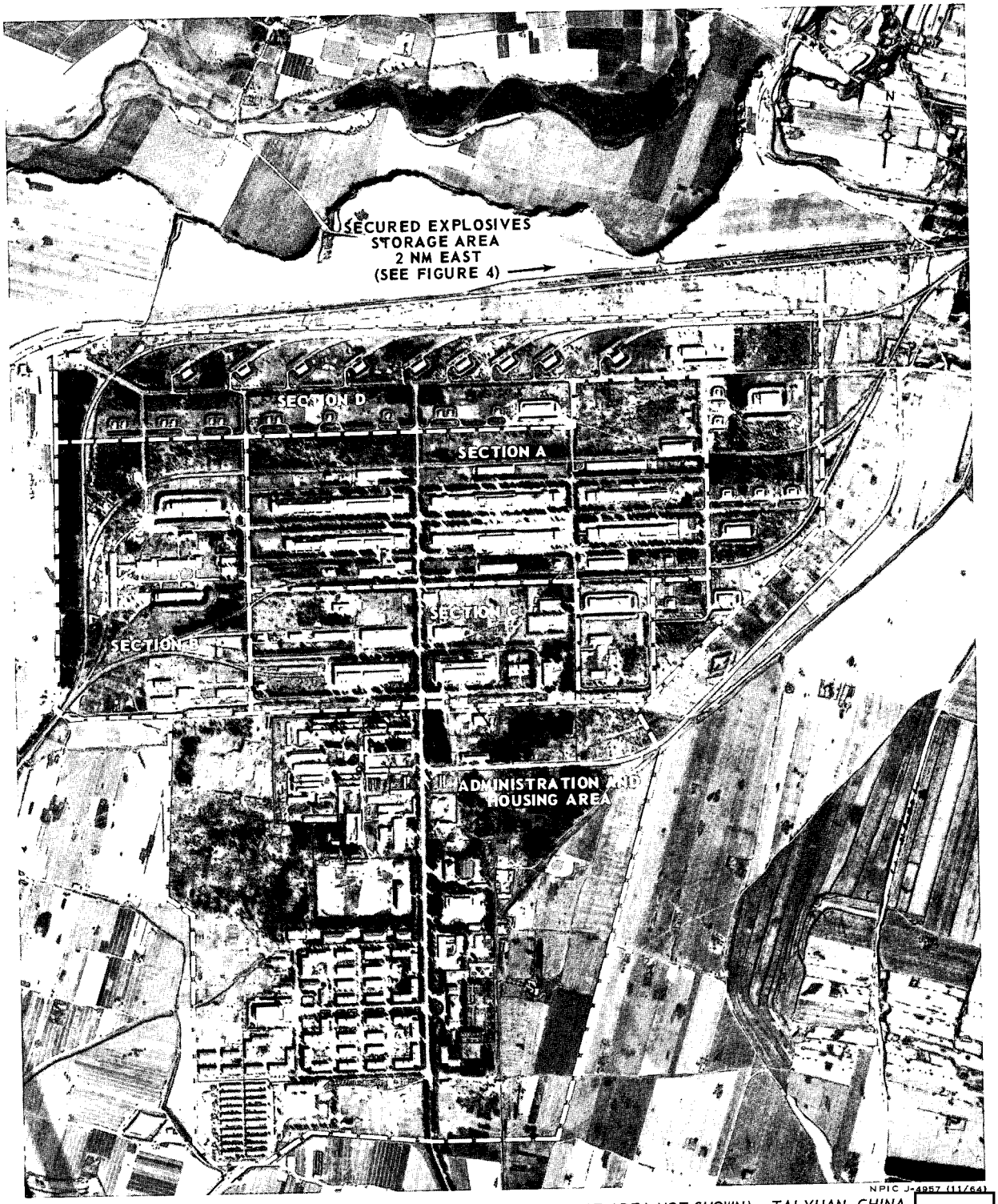

FIGURE 2. EXPLOSIVES PLANT NORTH (SECURED EXPLOSIVES STORAGE AREA NOT SHOWN), TAI-YUAN, CHINA, [redacted]

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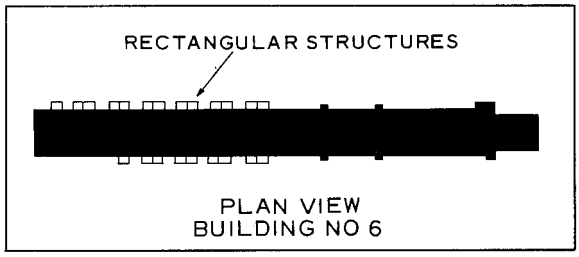
BLDG	LENGTH (FEET)		WIDTH (FEET)	ROOF COVERAGE (SQUARE FEET)
1	415	x	45	18,675
2	360	x	50	18,000
3	450	x	50	22,500
4	325	x	50	16,250
5	525	x	145	76,125
6	945	x	80	75,600
7	920	x	65	59,800
8	580	x	65	37,700
9*	255	x	50	12,750
10	190	x	75	14,250
11	195	x	40	7,800
12*	100	x	35	3,500
13*	25	x	15	375
OTHERS				482,625
			TOTAL	845,950

*Dimensions for other buildings of similar configuration are not given; the roof coverage of these buildings is included under OTHERS.



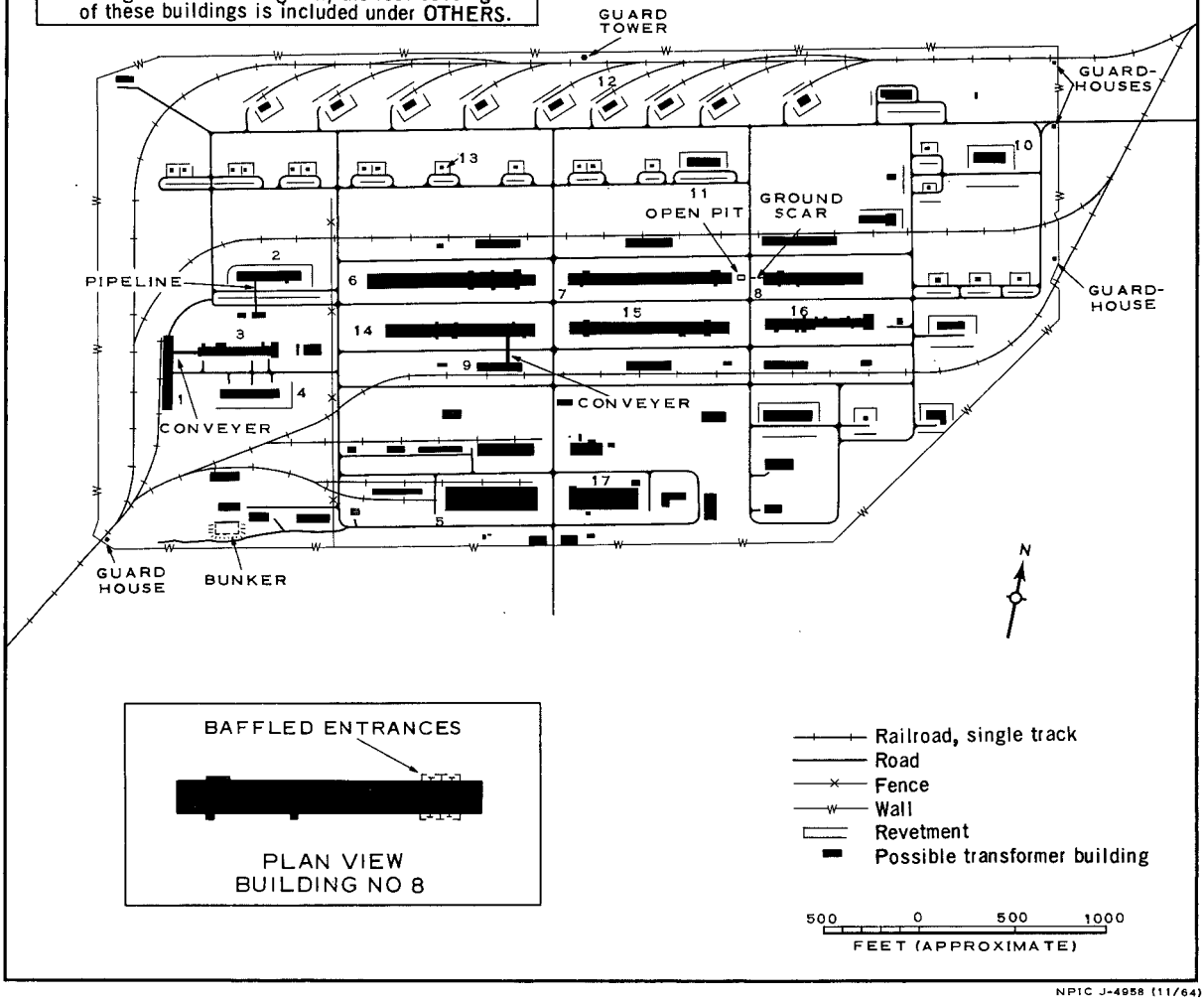


FIGURE 3. LAYOUT OF PRODUCTION AND STORAGE AREA, EXPLOSIVES PLANT NORTH. For delineation of sections, see Figure 2.

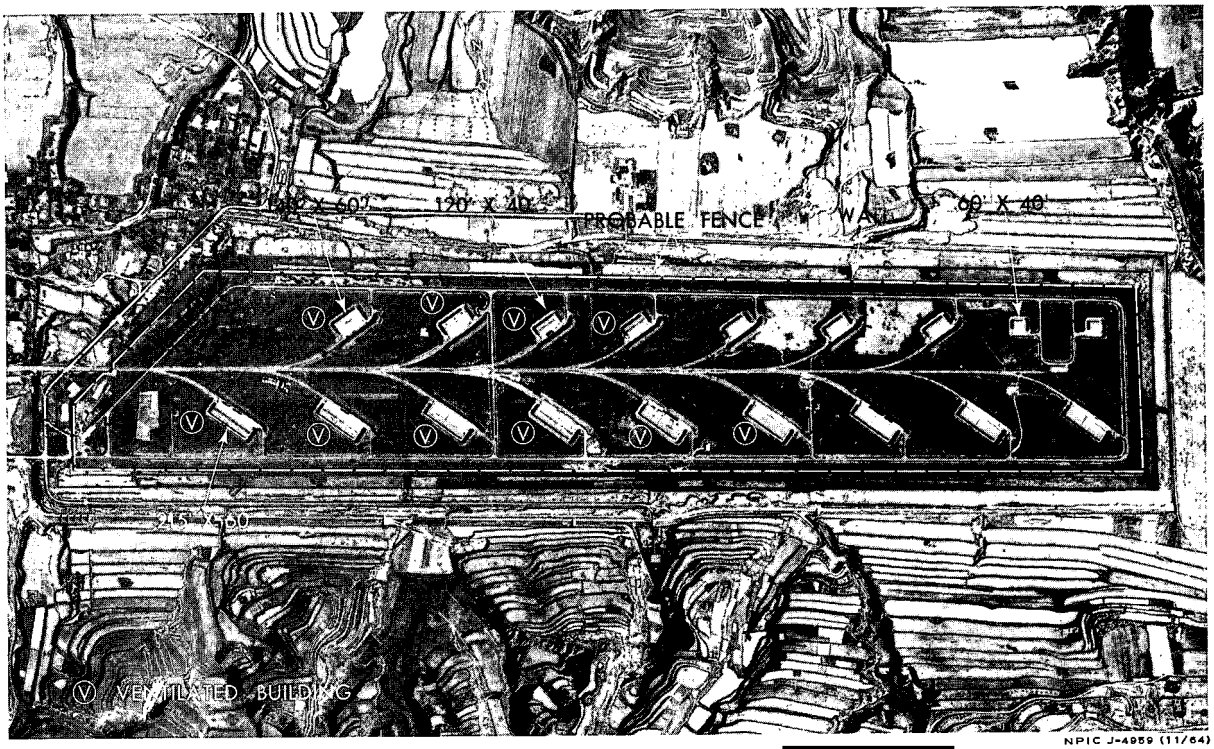


FIGURE 4. SECURED EXPLOSIVES STORAGE AREA, [redacted] 25X1D

is separated from the rest of the installation by a fence on its eastern side and contains four large buildings. The principal building (building 2) is heavily revetted and has numerous ventilators on its roof. An overhead pipeline or shelf connects this building with a small building just outside the revetment.

The section is rail served. A shipping/receiving building (building 1) is parallel to a rail spur. The building is connected to a long processing building (building 3) with a high center section by a covered passageway or conveyer. A large building (building 4) with a revetment on its south and east sides is probably used for processing. Four buildings and a bunker are located in the southern part of this section; the buildings are used for either explosives processing or laboratory operations.

Section C. This is probably the shipping and support section. It contains two very large buildings and several smaller buildings. Building 5, the largest in the section, has a monitor roof with ventilators on each end. A structure, which is normally used for catching sawdust, is visible on the roof. At the time of the 25X1D [redacted] photography three boxcars were standing on the rail spur which runs along the north side of the building.

Building 17, slightly smaller than building 5, also has a monitor roof with several ventilators. The configuration and location of this building suggest that it is a machine shop for the support of the installation. A small building in the southwest corner of the area is a possible transformer building.

Section D. This is a storage section which also contains some possible laboratory buildings and/or small processing buildings. Nine rail-served revetted buildings and 19 small

revetted buildings are used for storage of the finished products. Five small processing or laboratory buildings are located in the eastern part of the section. The storage buildings provide approximately 39,000 square feet of storage space.

Administration and Housing Area

This area, located south of the production and storage area, contains 41 high-standard dormitory buildings, an auditorium, animal sheds, and a storage facility for the area (Figure 2).

Secured Explosives Storage Area

This area is located 2 nm east of the main installation and is connected to it by a rail line (Figure 4). Within the secured area are 18 revetted storage buildings of four different sizes: nine buildings measure 215 by 60 feet; five measure 120 by 40 feet; two measure 140 by 60 feet; and two measure 60 by 40 feet. Ten of the storage buildings have roof ventilators. The total roof cover of the storage buildings is 161,700 square feet. At the time of the [redacted] photography nine boxcars were visible on the rail spurs at some of the storage buildings.

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SECURITY

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A wall encloses the installation and one guard tower is visible along the north wall. A wall separates the administration and housing area from the production and storage area. Three guardhouses are located along the east wall of the production and storage area. [redacted]

[redacted]

of the buildings.

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CONCLUSION

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[redacted]

REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

25X1D [redacted]

MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0382-13AL, 2d ed, Oct 60, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET/[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1C

DOCUMENT

25X1 1. NPIC. R-1323/64, *New Section at Explosives and Ammunition Complex, Tai-yuan, China,* Aug 64 (SECRET/[redacted] 25X1

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NPIC PROJECT

N-819/64 (partial answer)

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